


SEPTEMBER 1949

 BIBLE
SOCIETY

Record



Rev. Eric McCoy North, Ph.D., D.D., Chairman of the
Council of the United Bible Societies



Facing World Problems Together



The Standing Committee, left to right: Béguin, Hudspeth, Darlington, Wilkinson, Rutgers, Somerville, Platt

At Work at Seabury House

A running comment which gives Record readers an opportunity to look behind the scenes at some of the more technical problems faced by every national Bible Society, and which are helped toward solution when such Societies work on them together

BY PAUL A. COLLYER

THE pictures on this page were taken during the executive sessions of the Council of the United Bible Societies held at Seabury House, Greenwich, Connecticut, June 13 to 18. The work went on continuously, with morning, afternoon and evening sessions. There were many committee meetings as well as full sessions of the delegates and official visitors. At one evening session there were twenty-seven present. It was discovered that this group, between them, were conversant in twenty different languages, as follows: Chinese, Danish, Dutch, English, Ewe (spoken on the Gold Coast, Africa), Finnish, French, German, Hindi, Japanese, Javanese, Korean, Ma-

layan, Portuguese, Punjabi, Sindhi, Spanish, Sudanese, Swedish and Urdu.

Significant actions taken by the Council were the decisions to publish a Bible translators' journal; to organize functional groups which will deal with problems of Scripture distribution, translation, Bible use, and visual aids; to publish a news bulletin for the sharing of information among the national Bible Societies; and to hold a translators' conference in the Indonesian area in the winter of 1951-52.

The decision to publish a translators' journal, "The Bible Translator," and to hold a translators' conference

(Continued on page 109)

Rutgers, North and Wilkinson (right) describe a new translation to President Burke of the American Bible Society



The Finance Committee in session



Bible Society Record

A JOURNAL DEDICATED TO THE WIDER DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF THE
HOLY SCRIPTURES

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Pray for a Bible-Hungry World!

MUCH of this issue of the *Bible Society Record* is devoted to reporting the Fourth Annual Meeting of the Council of the United Bible Societies, held in New York in June. The work of Bible translation, production, distribution and use will, as the delegates return to their tasks, as a result of this meeting feel the spur of new encouragement in many lands. But there is something that every *Record* reader can add to this new impulse to progress: he can pray for the Bible Cause. To implement this added contribution we reproduce here the responsive prayer of thanksgiving and intercession used for the first time at the great public service held on June 12, 1949 at the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in connection with the United Bible Societies, meetings:

Minister: Almighty God, Our Heavenly Father, we give Thee humble and hearty thanks for Thy great gift of the Holy Scriptures to us and to all men, wherein is set before us Thy holy will and the redemption Thou dost offer us in Thy Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: We bless Thee, O Lord, for all those translators, scholars and martyrs by whose patient labor, great learning and courageous deeds the Holy Scriptures have been transmitted to us in our own tongues through long centuries and in the face of many dangers.

Minister: We give Thee thanks for those who as translators and revisers do now seek afresh to master the speech of unlettered tribes and the changing language of great nations and to set forth therein the glories of Thy Word.

People: Grant, we beseech Thee, that they may have minds and hearts open to all truth and skill and judgment in expressing in human words the Good News of Thy Love.

Minister: We give Thee thanks for all who copy and print, for all who bind and pack, for all who transport and protect the Holy Scriptures as they go forth.

People: Grant, we beseech Thee, that all these who serve the making and diffusion of Thy Holy Word may do so with skill and speed, that unto earth's remotest bounds the peoples who cry "Where is the word of the Lord?" may quickly have the Gospel set forth before their eyes.

Minister: We give Thee thanks for all colporteurs and pastors, all missionaries and Christian workers who, counting not their lives dear unto themselves, seek to bring the Holy Scriptures persuasively into the hands and hearts of those who know them not.

People: Grant, we beseech Thee, that all those who bear Thy Word to mankind may in word and life give true and faithful witness to Thy Gospel, may be guarded in all dangers and may rejoice in the fruit of their labors.

Minister: We give Thee thanks for all Societies and agencies which seek the wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures and for all the lovers of Thy Word who by their gifts and service have multiplied the distribution of the Scriptures among mankind.

People: Grant, we beseech Thee, that, moved by Thy Spirit, we may lift our eyes to see the fields white unto harvest, the famished multitudes waiting for the Bread of Life, and may with Thy whole Church lay ourselves and our substance on Thine altar, that Thy Word may go forth among all men.

Minister: We give Thee thanks, O most merciful Lord, for the great host who, having received with gladness the Living Word into their hearts, do now bear witness in their lives to Thy salvation and proclaim Thy saving power among men.

People: Grant, we beseech Thee, blessed Lord, that, as Thy Word in the Holy Scriptures is presented to men by the labors of Thy servants, the hearts of men may be open and their minds receptive to the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and that, whether in lands of freedom or where the clouds of oppression hang low, Thy Word may find its sure entrance and may give eternal Light to the glory of Thy Name. Amen.

The United Bible Societies Meet in New York

Delegates and Official Visitors from 20 Countries were the Guests of the American Bible Society for the Fourth Annual Meeting of their Council, June 6-18

BY FREDERICK W. CROPP

FOR the first time since its formation in 1946 the Council of the United Bible Societies met in the United States in the early days of June.

While it was a matter of deep regret that the Chairman of the Council, Bishop Eivind Berggrav, Primate of Norway, was detained by illness, and the Bible Society of Norway, of which he is President, was not represented, official delegates were present from 13 of the 19 member Societies, as follows: Australia, Mr. W. J. Williams; Belgium, Rev. J. Harts; Canada and Newfoundland, Rev. W. H. Hudspeth; Denmark, Bishop C. W. Noack; Finland, Rev. Dean Toivo Winter; Germany, Rev. Victor Bode; Great Britain, Rev. A. H. Wilkinson and Rev. W. J. Platt; India, Pakistan and Ceylon, Rev. Chandu Ray; Japan, Rev. Shiro Murata; the Netherlands, Rev. Dr. H. C. Rutgers; Scotland, Rev. Dr. W. C. Somerville; Sweden, Rev. Dean Olle Nystedt; United States, Rev. Dr. E. M. North.

The member Societies not represented were those of Austria, Czechoslovakia, France, Iceland, Ireland and Switzerland.

The official visitors in attendance were M. Olivier Béguin, of Switzerland; Mr. Daniel A. Chapman of Africa; Rev. E. M. Kriskke of Brazil; Mr. M. T. G. Rogers, Rev. M. W. Booth and Mr. John Cowan of Canada; Mr. David McGavin of China; Rev. Theo. Schlatter of Germany; Mr. G. P. Khouw of the Netherlands Indies; and Mr. Young Bin Im of Korea.

During the first week the program of events was carried through in New York and consisted mostly of gatherings of a general nature, or by special invitation designed to widen the contacts of the delegates and visitors and acquaint the public with the work of the United Bible Societies.

During the first week of meetings there were occasions when these foreign delegates and visitors met jointly with the District, Division and Field Secretaries of the American Bible Society, who were holding their triennial Headquarters conference at the same time. (See inside back cover for a list of these Secretaries.) Truly the coming of all these official friends of the Bible Cause fulfilled the promise printed in the May-June *Record*, "Never Before—So Many Together." These "many" met the Officers and representatives of the American Bible Society Headquarters staff at an informal reception in the Bible House Wednesday afternoon, June 8.

Board of Managers' Dinner

On Wednesday evening the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society tendered a reception and

dinner to the United Bible Societies and American Bible Society delegates and visitors at the Barbizon-Plaza Hotel. There were nearly 200 persons present at this colorful occasion, which was addressed by Rev. Michio Kozaki, Moderator of the Church of Christ, Japan; by Rev. Arthur H. Wilkinson, General Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society; by Dean Olle Nystedt, Secretary of the Swedish Bible Society; by Rev. Dr. George G. Dilworth, Atlantic District Secretary of the American Bible Society; and by Mr. Young Bin Im, Secretary of the Korean Bible Society. Dr. Daniel Burke, President of the American Bible Society, presided.

At this dinner President Burke read a message from General Douglas MacArthur sent in response to one sent earlier by the American Bible Society as to Japan's Bible needs. Dr. Gilbert Darlington, Treasurer of the American Bible Society, stated as background for General MacArthur's message that, since the war and to the end of 1948, the American Bible Society had sent to Japan 141,000 complete Bibles, 1,665,552 New Testaments and 672,542 Gospel portions—a total of 2,479,094 volumes—as well as paper and binding material to a value of \$102,621 for publication of Scriptures in Japan; and that the total value of both the published books and the materials was \$819,630. Dr. Darlington then stated that the Japan Bible Society had requested paper and binding materials for 1950 for 35,000 Bibles, 980,000 New Testaments, 1,970,000 Portions, 5,000 Braille volumes and 10,000 English Scriptures—a total of 3,000,000 volumes.

General MacArthur's response was as follows:

"Magnificent contribution has been made by the American Bible Society to advance of Christianity in Japan. Estimates of Japan Bible Society for 1950 are believed satisfactory for year. It is hoped that permanent program will provide for the message of the Scriptures to reach every village and hamlet in the land."

A Symposium

On Thursday morning, June 9, the delegates and selected clergymen attended a symposium on the

Mimeographed copies of the five symposium addresses have been made available to those who care to have them. Requests should be addressed to AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY, Publicity Department, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, New York.



"Never Before—So Many Together." The American Bible Society's workers in the home field met simultaneously. (For locations on field see inside back cover.) Front row, left to right: Cropp, Logan, Taylor, Osberg, Stanton, Ellingson, Riland, Thompson, Burnett, Miss Serio, Hubbell, Etchison, Jackson, Bookmyer, Carson, Macbeth, Johnson, Stifler, Ragatz. Second row: Cameron, Claypool, Speer, Howell, Hodges, Dilworth, Norman, Hofrichter, Powers, Smith, Bayless, Collyer, Wilson. Back row: Nettinga, McElroy, West.

subject: "The Bible in Church and World Today," at which five papers were presented bearing on the problems confronted by the United Bible Societies.

"The Bible and the European Crisis" was presented by M. Olivier Béguin, who stated that the real crisis centers in the "despiritualization" of European civilization; that whereas Communism is the logical outcome of totalitarianism's denial of God's kingship over the world, much of the ideology of Western Europe, though just as godless and materialistic, tries to hide itself hypocritically behind a spiritual curtain." The only hope for Europe, Mr. Béguin said, was in the reinstatement of spiritual power, which meant the widespread dissemination of the message of the Bible. "Without a complete return to the full Gospel, without the effort and the will to disentangle and distinguish the Christian message from mere Christianized thinking, there is, I fear, very little hope of the Church . . . not being tarnished by the world and by the political, economic and social tension and struggles which are tearing a dechristianized Europe to pieces."

Mr. Béguin then spoke hopefully of the many evidences of a return to the Bible both within and without the Churches of Europe and urged the assuring of an adequate supply of copies of the Book.

Dr. W. C. Somerville, in speaking of "The Bible in the Life of a Nation," drew his thoughts from the history of his own beloved Scotland where, he reminded his hearers, a century ago God was central in the nation's life. He said: "There was little nervous strain of the type there is in our own day. People were satisfied about the important issues. The world had been created by God, all people belonged to Him, He was Lord and King."

Dr. Somerville then drew the contrast with today's attitude not only in Scotland but in many lands. "Most people today find so much to do on the human

level that they have little interest in God." He sensed, however, in Scotland what he believed to be the return from Israel's exile—just the beginnings of such a return. He felt that while the most obvious enemy to the full accomplishment of that return was Communism with its militant atheism, the more dangerous adversary is the materialistic "intellectual who quotes facts from psychologists and brain surgeons in an attempt to provide a mechanical explanation for human character." He declared the best reply to such is another set of facts—"the fact of the Bible; . . . of the birth and life and death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ; the facts of Pentecost and the growth of the early Church; these and a great deal more" and, "more important than argument, . . . daily living."

Rev. Shiro Murata, a Director of the Japan Bible

Mr. Murata, Dean Winter and Rev. Theo. Schlatter examine Bibles on display at the Fifth Avenue Church



Society, spoke of "The Impact of the New Testament on Postwar Japan," which we reprint virtually in its entirety on another page, since it is so timely and intimately related to the work of the American Bible Society.

Rev. Chandu Ray, Secretary for Pakistan of the Bible Society of India, Pakistan and Ceylon, spoke on the Bible and the Great Evangel. His remarks were warmly personal as he spoke of how his mother took him on all the Hindu pilgrimages of India, and still he could find no satisfaction of soul. His satisfaction came ten years later when he found Christ. He related that on the day when Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated, he had chosen the hymn "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" to be sung at the prayer meeting. The hymn was not sung and the prayer meeting ended in chaos and his murder. But when it was published in the newspapers that Gandhi had chosen the hymn about the Cross of Jesus Christ, and the people could learn about the Cross in the New Testament, there were so many applications for copies of the New Testament that the store of books was soon gone.

Mr. Ray pled for more translations of the Bible in the languages of the common people and for further development of the literacy campaigns in India. He warned against the impact of Islam and the weakening of restraints against it since the British withdrawal.

The closing address of the symposium was given by Dr. Henry P. Van Dusen, President of Union Theological Seminary. He spoke on "The Bible and Christian Unity." He paid honor to the Bible Society movement, originating with the British and Foreign Bible Society in 1804 and spreading rapidly in Europe and America as marking the beginning of the modern movement for Christian unity. For, Dr. Van Dusen said, "... by universal acknowledgment of all Protestant bodies, the Scriptures are the one ultimate standard of faith and practice." Christians of differing communions first joined forces through common acknowledgment of, and loyalty to, the Bible. The purpose of their united action was a more adequate supply of the Scriptures for foreign missions, and these two factors—the Bible and foreign missions—have been the two principal agencies of the advance toward Christian unity for a century and a half since. Even today the Bible is virtually the only textbook of foreign missions. It is the tool for breaking down the first and basic barrier—language—and then for conveying the saving message of the Gospel. It is the Bible and the Bible alone which adequately nurtures the tender new Christian life without rootage in a rich Christian heritage and constantly enveloped by non-Christian or anti-Christian influences. Among the younger Churches today, as it has always been, it is the Bible which actually works the miracles of transformation in human lives and then holds and sustains and nourishes them in their new existence.



The Procession enters the Fifth Avenue Church

A luncheon was tendered to representatives of the secular and religious press, following the symposium, and in the afternoon a reception was held at which the representatives of the mission boards and other agencies with headquarters in New York were presented to the delegates. This day, June 9, was a day filled with rich fellowship and inspiration.

A Great Worship Service

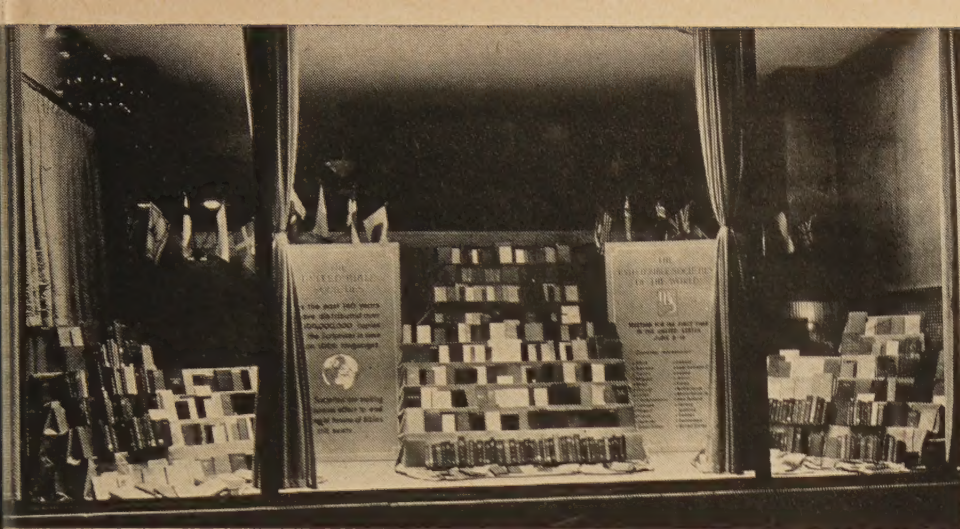
At four o'clock on Sunday afternoon, June 12, 1,400 people gathered in the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in a public assembly of the Council of the United Bible Societies. The meeting opened with a procession of members of New York churches having their origins in nations where there are Bible Societies, some of the participants wearing the costumes of the countries they represented. An elaborate display of Scriptures surrounded the pulpit platform, consisting of famous first editions and volumes of unusual historic interest. Members of the council conducted the various parts of the service, which included the responsive prayer printed on page 103.

The host pastor, Rev. John Sutherland Bonnell, spoke on "The Bible and Our Humanity," and Rev. W. S. Platt, General Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, spoke on "The Bible for the World."

At both morning and evening services on the same day, in many of the city and suburban churches members of the Council were guest speakers.

Several special radio programs, two of them on national networks, marked the period of the meetings. Dean Toivo Winter spoke in Finnish by short wave to the people of his native land, who were alerted by special cable to listen.

Never, surely, since the Bible Society movement began almost a century and a half ago, was so prominent a place given in the thought of our nation to the significance of the Word of God in the history and current thought, or the need for immediate and effective sharing of that Word with people deprived of it, as during the days of the United Bible Society's meetings in New York.



A display of the Scriptures in nearly 700 languages with which the United Bible Societies are working. This appeared in the Bible House window in New York during June

Here Is the Task

As it was seen by the delegates to the Fourth Annual Meeting of the United Bible Societies, and interpreted by the Treasurer and Manager of Production of the American Bible Society

BY GILBERT DARLINGTON

OVER one thousand million copies of the Holy Scriptures have been distributed by the twenty national Societies who constitute the United Bible Societies, which has just been meeting for the first time in the United States. These Bible Societies have helped in large part to translate the Word of God into 1,108 different languages and dialects and are adding about ten new additional languages or dialects a year.

In the ten prewar years, 1930-39, the national Bible Societies or committees that are members of the United Bible Societies have published or distributed each year about

2,000,000 Bibles

2,500,000 Testaments

19,500,000 Portions

—or a total of 24,000,000 copies of the Scriptures. During the Second World War, however, it was not possible to keep up this regular annual supply. Shortages of paper, of manpower, of production machinery and equipment—as well as rationing, priorities and the destruction of plant and personnel—made publication very difficult or almost impossible in most of the world. Even in England the quota for Bible paper was cut to 37½ percent of prewar years. In Germany, Japan, the Philippines, and in all of the combat areas of Europe and Asia, publication was almost completely suspended. Never in the history of the world had there been such a protracted or extensive stoppage of the publication of the Word of God. Never before had so many Bibles and Testaments in churches, homes, schools and libraries been totally lost or destroyed.

From July 1, 1940 to December 31, 1948, through the providence of God the American Bible Society has been able to supply in addition to its regular work 7,886,557 copies of God's Holy Word to the chap-

lains of the United States Armed Forces and to service personnel; 2,909,355 Bibles, Testaments and Gospels to prisoners of war; 9,126,800 copies to liberated areas, displaced persons, and to the war-torn regions of the world—a grand total of 19,922,712 copies to help make up some of this tragic deficit.

These 20,000,000 copies of the Holy Scriptures were equivalent, however, to only about a one year's average output as against the accumulated deficit of the ten ill-favored years, 1939-1948. World production of Scriptures is not yet back to the prewar standard of 24,000,000 copies a year. Even in 1948 total production of the member Societies was only 17,508,464, or less than three quarters of a prewar year. Printing and binding material and financial help must still be given to revive the publication of Scriptures in Germany, Japan, Korea, and all of the war-blighted areas of Europe and Asia.

In Japan, generous gifts of 340 tons of paper and binding materials by one member Society have started the production of 10,000,000 copies of the Word of God in the next three years. In Germany similar gifts are making possible a production of 600,000 Bibles and 840,000 Testaments in the current twelve months in both the Western and Eastern Zones.

In addition to these reconstruction needs, there has also been a widespread increase of literacy and of interest in the Bible in Latin America, Africa, India and in the islands of the sea, which were largely undamaged by the war. This indicates why, even after the accumulated deficit of the war years has been wiped out, the prewar sights of 24,000,000 copies a year for 1930-39 must be raised by at least 50 to 100 percent if the present phenomenal demand is to be met.

The representatives of the twenty national Bible

Societies that met at Seabury House in Greenwich, Connecticut from June 13-19 planned to meet this urgent need. They know that there is a blessing that comes to all those who read and follow the Word of God. In complete cooperation and fellowship with one another they sought divine guidance and help to satisfy the awakened hunger of millions of poor unhappy people for the Bread of Life.

The editors of the *Bible Society Record* solicit the prayers of every reader of these words that ways and means may be found to supply *annually* at least

4,000,000 Bibles

5,000,000 Testaments

26,000,000 Portions, including Scriptures for the blind.

Only through worldwide prayer and faith will it be possible to distribute 35,000,000 copies of God's Word to those who seek guidance, inspiration and grace to live better and more fruitful lives in our confused and disillusioned world.

"Brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified." II Thess. 3:1. "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." II Cor. 9:6. "Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness." II Cor. 9:10.

He that hath ears to hear, let him hear! Amen.

The Impact of the New Testament on Postwar Japan

*Being an address given in New York by the Official Delegate of the Japan Bible Society
to the Fourth Annual Meeting of the United Bible Societies, held in New York*

BY SHIRO MURATA

JAPAN today faces three great problems. First is the economic problem; second is the problem of overpopulation; and the third is the moral and spiritual problem of the nation, and this third one is the most vital question for the present-day Japan. In the past years Japan based her moral foundation upon the ancient myth which was interpreted with strong, one-sided nationalism. This naturally led the people in the belief of the Emperor's divine nature. But such perverted belief has no enduring power in the days of storm and stress, as we experienced in the last war-time. The result of the war has shaken Japan's moral life from its foundation, and the old idea which is believed to be unchangeable throughout the ages is shattered into pieces. Confusion of thought and action have appeared in every sphere of social life.

Many people were at loss in their view of life and world. "What is right and what is wrong?" they questioned each other. Naturally, the leading people began to seek some broader and stronger and truthful basis of moral and spiritual life, and their eyes now are fixed upon the two books. The one is "Das Kapital" of Karl Marx. The other is the Holy Bible. Japan today stands at the crossroad. It is really a critical time for her. It is the time for all Christians in Japan to stand up vigorously for the cause of the Kingdom of God.

Soon after the war ended, there came a marked change of attitude toward Christianity. The numbers of church attendance counts two or three times more; in some part of big cities, churches have attendance even five times more than that of the prewar period. We see many Christians have been elected in the House of Representatives, and also we see consid-

erable numbers of Christians in the Cabinet. Important governmental offices were opened for Christians. I am quite sure that many men and women, especially younger generations, are moving toward Christianity, expecting to have the unshaken truth of human life and real basis of democracy.

Thus, naturally the Bible, especially the New Testament, is wanted seriously, but the terrible war fire burned almost everything. We could not afford paper, printing machine, and so on. How could we deliver them the Bible, which they wanted so earnestly? It was almost impossible for us at that time. But, thank God! when we were so needy for the Bible, God used the American Bible Society in this great work. The American Bible Society helped us by sending voluminous numbers of the Bible, chiefly the New Testament. We can figure it out—so: 2,856,789 copies, pretty nearly three million copies of the New and Old Testament. I must express at this occasion our deep gratitude and appreciation for this unprecedented task which the American Bible Society had done for us. How the Churches and Christians and those who love to read the Bible were pleased when they got the newly printed Bible in their own hands!

Since last July we are able to print the New Testament by the aid of the American Bible Society in matter of paper and ink. So we offered 1,237,400 up to this April. Thus, since right after the war up to the end of April of this year, we distributed the Bible, mainly the New Testament and its Portions, almost above 3,724,098 copies throughout the country. All over the country we can see the selling of the Bible in the book store, in office room of the church, even

the waiting room of the station. I saw the sight often that people stand at a doorway of the station just like bread line to buy the spiritual bread. In trains or in street cars you may find that men and women carry Bible and are reading silently. Such we never saw before during the war time.

But how the Bible is read? That is important question. There are Bible-study classes in the Christian churches, of course. The marvelous thing is that after the war many Bible-study classes were set up beside the Bible-study class of church—in the government offices room, in office room of the banks, in police headquarter office, in the city municipal office, in the private houses, in the post office room, and so on. And these Bible classes are mostly led by pastor, some time in the week day, at noon recess after the daytime work finished. Most wonderful thing is this, that the Royal Family, which was so strictly closed to the common people before, is now opened for the Bible class. Rev. Mrs. Uemura goes to the palace three times a week to teach the New Testament to the young princesses, to which the Empress and the Emperor attend very often. I heard His Majesty uses the Bible that American Bible Society has presented last year through Japan Bible Society. I have no time to touch to the fact what we see in the country part of Japan and also the revived enthusiasm in the Christian schools for the Bible study.

Let say a word in conclusion. First, more Bible is needed. We planned in our first year of ten million

distribution campaign:

First year, 1949 2,000,000 copies

Second year, 1950 3,000,000 copies

Third year, 1951 5,000,000 copies

to be distributed. We are now on the way of this campaign.

Not only let the Japanese people read the Bible, but also let them understand what the Bible says and what the Gospel is. This is the most important task which God laid upon us. May God help us in this magnificent work! I ask you, my friends, pray for us, and help us with your warm prayer that we may obtain the victory in this spiritual battle.

At Work at Seabury House

(Continued from page 102)

ference came out of a realization that there still remain about 1,000 languages and dialects into which as yet no portion of the Scriptures has been translated. There are about 750 more languages into which only a part of the Scriptures has been translated. At present there are several hundred missionaries and native Christians giving part or full time to translation work. The journal and conferences will help missionary and native Christian translators so that time-consuming errors can be avoided, and so translations can be made which are readily understood and which more faithfully convey the original meaning of the Bible. In some cases languages have to be reduced to writing for the first time or estab-

Who's Who at Seabury House—Front row, left to right: Dr. Nida, Rev. J. Harts, Rev. Chandu Ray, Young Bin Im, Rev. Viktor Bode, Rev. Theo Schlatter, T. G. Rogers, Rev. M. W. Booth. Second Row: Rev. W. J. Platt, Rev. W. H. Hudspeth, G. P. Khouw, Dean Olle Nystedt, Bishop Noack, Rev. Shiro Murata,

Rev. Tsuru, D. A. Chapman, Mr. Macbeth. Third row: Rev. Egmont Machado Kriskche, Dean Toivo Winter, Dr. Darlington, Dr. Somerville, David McGavin, Rev. A. H. Wilkinson, W. J. Williams, Dr. Rutgers, M. Béguin, Rev. Paul A. Collyer



lished forms of writing have to be revised. In such work the information carried in the journal and discussed in conference will be invaluable, especially to new translators. Dr. Eugene A. Nida of the American Bible Society will head the editorial board of the journal for the next two years. Dr. Herman C. Rutgers, Secretary of the United Bible Societies, is chairman of the functional group and will have large responsibility for the 1951-52 conference.

Though a discussion of visual materials was not



The Approach to Seabury House

listed on the original agenda, the delegates took advantage of the presence of Mr. Henry Ragatz, Secretary for Visual Materials for the American Bible Society, to hold an informal discussion of the widening field. It was at once recognized that good motion-picture film, film strips, charts and pictorial literature are of great value in telling the story of the Bible, of Bible Society work and of the need for Scriptures. Though no definite actions were taken, the groundwork was laid for the sharing with all national Societies of materials produced by the individual Societies. Language, of course, is a problem; but it was reported that sound tracks in various languages can be prepared for use with sound film, and titles in various languages can be adapted for silent films and film strips. Many Societies asked for supplies of film produced by the American Bible Society. "The Book for the World of Tomorrow" and "Thy Word Giveth Light" were two films in great demand.

Dr. Gilbert Darlington, Treasurer of the American Bible Society, reported that the American Bible Society has deposited in three libraries in the United States copies of all the Scripture editions it publishes. This has been done to safeguard the editions in case of war or other disaster. Several delegates said they would send sample copies of their Scriptures to the United States to be placed in these libraries for safe-keeping.

Interesting discussions of the problems of Scripture distribution in areas of political or ecclesiastical tension; of the basic elements in the work of a national

Bible Society; of the encouragement of Bible reading and means of financial support, were led by delegates from the various countries.

Reports on India, Brazil, China, etc.

Evening meetings were given to less weighty matters. On the first evening fraternal delegates spoke of the work which is being done by the organization they represent. On subsequent evenings the delegates heard reports concerning Bible Society work and the need for Scriptures in Brazil, China, Korea and India. The reports brought by the delegates from these countries indicate that though large numbers of the Scriptures have been distributed in these countries, there still are millions who have never even seen a printed copy of God's Holy Word. The great evangelical advance being made in Brazil at this time necessitates furnishing a larger number of Scriptures to the Christian Churches in that country than have ever been supplied before.

Rev. Chandu Ray from Pakistan told of the illiteracy of his people, and he pleaded for increased effort on the part of missionary-sending countries in helping to teach people of his country to read. "But," said Mr. Ray, "it is not enough that the people of Pakistan can read. They must have the written Word of God, so what they read will be a blessing rather than a curse to them."

Though items of business had to be considered the time given to these matters was kept at a minimum under the able guidance of Rev. Arthur H. Wilkinson, General Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, who presided at most of the meetings.

Mr. Olivier Béguin of Geneva, Switzerland was



Rev. Chandu Ray and a little admirer born in India, daughter of missionaries

appointed General Secretary of the United Bible Societies, with headquarters in London. Bishop Eivind Berggrav, Primate of Norway, was elected President of the United Bible Societies. Bishop Berggrav has been Chairman of the Council but was prevented from attending this year's meeting by

use of ill health. Dr. Eric M. North, General Secretary of the American Bible Society, was elected chairman of the Council to succeed Bishop Berggrav. Mr. Wilkinson of London and Dr. Rutgers of Amsterdam were elected Vice Chairmen. Lord Luke of England was reelected Treasurer and Dr. Gilbert Darlington of New York was reelected Associate Treasurer. Members of the Standing Committee, in addition to the Officers, are: Rev. W. H. Hudspeth of Toronto; Dr. W. C. Somerville of Edinburgh, Scotland; Bishop C. W. Noack of Copenhagen, Denmark; Rev. Wm. J. Platt of London; and one person, perhaps from the Orient, to be chosen by the committee.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in 1951 or in the winter of 1951-52 at a place to be chosen by the Standing Committee.

Undoubtedly the fellowship of the meetings reached its highest points each morning before breakfast and each evening after the meetings were ended, when the delegates gathered in the chapel for prayers. The simple services were led by Mr. Hudspeth. In the tradition of the Bible Societies the Word of God was read without note or comment, a hymn was sung and hearts were joined in prayer. These were moments when the Spirit of God filled the delegates with power and brought the blessing of peace. On the morning of the last day the delegates joined in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The service was led by Dr. Darlington, who was assisted by Mr. Hudspeth, Rev. Chandu Ray and Bishop Noack.

At the point in the service when the worshipers joined in the Lord's Prayer, each person prayed in his native tongue. It was not a babble of sound. Rather, it was all the ends of the earth praising Him. In partaking of the wine, the delegates sipped from a common cup. As the service ended, each delegate felt a new power which came out of the fellowship which knows no boundaries of race or language or time, but which makes all men one in Christ Jesus, our common Lord.

Memorial Gifts for Bibles

Mrs. Charles Henry Greenleaf of Boston, Massachusetts has recently sent two checks for \$500 each. With the first she wrote:

"I enclose my check for Bibles for Japan. I send it in memory of Dr. and Mrs. Curtis Hepburn, the first missionaries to Japan, whom I knew when a very little girl, when they came to Pennsylvania to see my dear relatives; and in 1900 in New York City. I heard Mrs. Hepburn say in Carnegie Hall, before 5,000 people 'I have the honor to be the first foreign woman to set foot on Japanese soil.'"

Later Mrs. Greenleaf sent a check in similar amount in memory of Hogan Brown, whom she says everyone seems to have forgotten as the captain of

the ship that took Perry to Japan. He was the brother-in-law of Dr. and Mrs. Hepburn.

Both these checks for Japan were prompted not only by Mrs. Greenleaf's affection for these worthy pioneers in opening up Japan for Christ, but in response to Gen. MacArthur's urgent request for Scriptures for Japan.

A third check for \$500 from Mrs. Greenleaf was designated to help meet the cost of supplying New Testaments to the Greek army, as requested by General Perivoliotis a year ago.

There may be others who, like this generous donor, would like to make memorial gifts, designated for one of the many situations, now confronting the Society; where the needs are so great and the resources so inadequate. Among such areas, beside Japan and Greece, are Germany, China, Korea, Brazil and the Philippines.

The Bible at the Chicago Railroad Fair

Most of the people in this picture are either writing a verse of the Bible or waiting their turn to do so. The setting is the Illinois Central's Exhibit at the Railroad Fair in Chicago. Mr. Wayne A. Johnston, President of the Illinois Central, graciously made the space available adjacent to the road's chief exhibit, which is the world's first all-electric dining car—two kindred exhibits offering



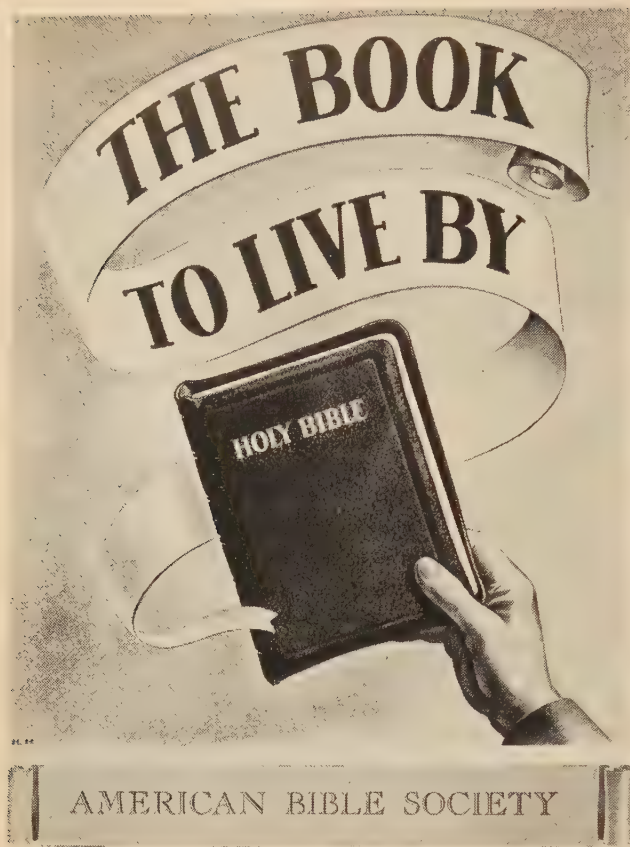
to travelers along the way the daily bread for which they were taught to pray and the Bread of Life for their souls' sustenance.

The people at the counter in the picture are each writing one verse of the 31,102 verses in the King James English Bible. Before the Railroad Fair closes on October 2 it is expected that the entire Bible will have been copied. Any reader of this issue of the *Bible Society Record* who visits the fair in the next month should seize the opportunity to participate before the last verse is copied.

Each person who pauses to write a verse at the exhibit is presented with a colorfully bound copy of the Sermon on the Mount and given a card indicating the verse he has inscribed.

When completed the Bible will be one of the largest in the world, its estimated weight being approximately one hundred pounds, according to Rev. Don Norman, Executive Secretary of the Chicago Bible Society, who are sponsoring the exhibit.

Again and again those who have a part in this ambitious enterprise bear testimony to the inspiration that comes to them in participating. In these perilous days the Bible exhibit at the Chicago Railroad Fair is just another indication of the turning of the people to their God.



THE BOOK TO LIVE BY

Sixth Annual Worldwide Bible Reading

THANKSGIVING
TO CHRISTMAS

1949

Universal Bible Sunday
December 11, 1949

ARE you satisfied with the amount of Bible reading you do? Again the American Bible Society has a program to help you and millions of others to gain fresh insight into God's truth. Will you not plan to join with people throughout America and in countries of Latin America, Asia, Africa and Europe in concerted, daily Bible reading from Thanksgiving to Christmas? "For all practical purposes, a Bible not read is no Bible at all."

There will be mailed in September to your minister an envelope of materials for Worldwide Bible Reading and Universal Bible Sunday. Perhaps you can

help him in seeing that the bookmarks he will order reach all those in your congregation, the organizations of your church, and others in your community. These convenient bookmarks which list the Daily Bible Readings are free, singly or in quantity when ordered by responsible people. You may write to Department "U" for copies to mail to members of your family away from home, and to friends with whom you correspond. It is not too early to get the bookmarks. You can help make Worldwide Bible Reading a blessing to many and an aid in Christ's plan of redemption, starting with you!

WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING PASSAGES FOR 1949

Thanksgiving, Nov. 24.....Psalms 23
Friday.....Psalms 27
Saturday.....Psalms 103
Sunday, Nov. 27.....Isaiah 35
Monday.....Romans 12
Tuesday.....Isaiah 55
Wednesday.....I Corinthians 13
Thursday, Dec. 1.....John 14
Friday.....Psalms 8
Saturday.....Revelation 21:1-7
Sunday, Dec. 4.....II Timothy 2
Monday.....Micah 6:1-8
Tuesday.....Acts 17:16-34
Wednesday.....Revelation 22:1-7
Thursday.....John 3:1-17
Friday.....I Thessalonians 5:12-28
Christmas, Dec. 25.....Luke 2

Saturday.....Mark 4:1-20
Universal Bible
Sunday, Dec. 11.....II Chronicles 7:11-18
Monday.....John 4:1-14
Tuesday.....Luke 10:25-37
Wednesday.....Matthew 25:31-46
Thursday.....Exodus 20:1-17
Friday.....Matthew 6:5-15
Saturday.....Psalms 119:33-40
Sunday, Dec. 18.....John 1:1-14
Monday.....Matthew 5:1-12
Tuesday.....Isaiah 9:2-7
Wednesday.....Romans 8:12-39
Thursday.....I Corinthians 15:35-58
Friday.....Isaiah 40
Saturday.....Isaiah 53

MEMBERS' FORUM

Annual Membership in the Society is secured through gift of \$5 or more for the carrying on of its work. The Society also provides for Life Membership, Life Directorship and Memorial Membership. Particulars will be sent on request. The editors welcome correspondence from members and devote this page in each issue to that purpose.]

From South Orange, N. J.:

It is a pleasure to send a donation (\$25) to the Society that is such a great spiritual influence throughout the world. I wish it were possible to send a sum that would be more commensurate with the desire in my heart.

From Grand Rapids, Michigan:

I have lately received some of your literature. I am much interested and in accord with your work and plan.

Enclosed find \$25 for spreading of the printed Word of God.

I would be interested in knowing if gifts may be designated to certain funds, and if this particular one might be marked for the work in Japan. Also would be interested in knowing approximate number of New Testaments this would provide.

From Lorraine, Kansas:

I am enclosing a check for \$50 which I would like to have you use to send Bibles, New Testaments and Christian literature to foreign countries, including Germany, as needed most.

Would you send me one sheet of your Bible Stamps?

From Rosamond, Calif. with a gift of \$100:

I was thrilled in reading the letter from the Colored Community in the May issue of the *Record*. To me it emphasizes again the great truth and revelation of John 1:17. The Gospel of God's grace is revealed in the New Testament.

From Gilman City, Missouri:

I am enclosing my gift to help you provide Scriptures for the blind. I already have a Sustaining Membership card in the Society, but I want to help these unfortunates. The Lord has abundantly blessed me and mine.

This morning, before our rural Sunday school I tried to acquaint the other members with the wonderful work you are doing for the Lord, and your needs for the future. We voted to give you our support.

Please send me about twenty sheets of your Seals for 1949, and I will personally handle their sale.

From Harrisburg, Pennsylvania:

I am enclosing two checks from my sister and myself.

self for the American Bible Society. Wish they might be more. Your work is wonderful and am glad we can have a part in giving the Gospel to these people who are groping for a spiritual way of life.

From Middletown, Connecticut:

Some words of a friend put an idea into my head; namely, to put my giving to the Society on a daily basis. So the enclosed (\$71) covers six dollars to bring up my 1948 giving to one dollar a day, and sixty-five dollars toward this year's giving. The Lord permitting, I hope to do the same for this year. A daily gift makes a daily prayer come more readily to mind.

From Riverhead, L.I., N.Y.:

The enclosed check for \$25 is to send Bibles wherever they seem to you most needed. We are away from home and, if anything, the Bible means more to us here. We would like everyone to find it as precious as we do.

From Lockport, New York:

Yes, I will try to secure five new members, even though I am crippled and cannot get out alone, but can use the post office and the telephone.

From Sedro Woolley, Washington:

Please send the Book of Matthew in Braille, Grade 2, for my husband. He surely enjoys reading the Bible, being in bed all of the time. Beside being blind, he has a cancer on his neck. There is lots of joy and comfort in reading God's Word.

From White Plains, New York:

In answer to your appeal for funds for your "Bibles Now" work, I am enclosing my check for twenty-five dollars. I had sent a contribution in April and did not intend to send a further amount, but the matter seems to me urgent.

From Stratford, Texas:

I have just received the last *Bible Society Record* and have read it through. I wish to help you purchase Bibles on the Sustaining Membership basis (\$25). I enjoyed every word of the *Record*.

From Nazareth, Pennsylvania:

I had some of the Lord's money on hand, and since I was not especially led to give it to any particular place, I was thinking of purchasing a new Bible for myself. I prayed about the matter, and this morning I received my *Bible Record*; and after reading it through was convinced that God wanted me to send you a donation to use where it is needed most.

P.S. I will pass my *Record* on to someone.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Bible Society Record

A Journal Dedicated to the Wider Distribution and Use of the Holy Scriptures

Editors: THE SECRETARIES

Address correspondence to the

Managing Editor

FRANCIS CARR STIFLER

450 Park Avenue

New York 22, N. Y.



Vol. 94 SEPTEMBER 1949 No. 7

Daily Bible Readings

SEPTEMBER

Day	Book	Chapter	Day	Book	Chapter
1	Mark	1:1-15	16	Luke	10:38-42
2	Mark	2:1-17	17	Nehemiah	6:1-14
3	Deuteronomy	31:6-8	18	Mark	2:18-28
4	Deuteronomy	8:10-20	19	Daniel	5:13-31
5	Ecclesiastes	5:9-20	20	Daniel	6:1-23
6	Mark	4:21-41	21	Matthew	11:1-19
7	I Kings	3:1-15	22	Matthew	11:20-30
8	I Kings	3:16-28	23	Matthew	14:22-36
9	I Kings	18:17-46	24	Isaiah	26:1-8
10	I Kings	19:1-18	25	Haggai	2:1-9
11	Mark	5:1-20	26	Hosea	14:1-7
12	II Kings	2:1-15	27	Mark	13:28-37
13	II Kings	5:1-14	28	Ruth	1
14	Mark	8:27-38	29	Malachi	3:1-10
15	Luke	7:36-50	30	Malachi	4

The Bible on the Air

Secretary Stifler will be heard from coast to coast twice each Friday during September over the facilities of the American Broadcasting Company in the daily program entitled "Gems For Thought." The morning program is heard at 8:55 on the network's parent station WJZ in New York, but at 8:45 on the rest of the network. The evening program is at 11:30. All times given are Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

The themes for the month are, September 2, A.M., "And I Work," P.M., "The Bible—A Manual of Prayer"; September 9, A.M., "The Latest in Bibles," P.M., "Gifts from the Bible—Humility"; September 16, A.M., "A Few Kind Words for Uncle Sam," P.M., "Ways to Read the Bible"; September 23, A.M., "Genesis and Revelation," P.M., "The Ten Best Sellers in Japan"; September 30, A.M., "Every Man's

Book," P.M., "Consider, Then, the Bible."

* *

Bible Mastery Month

The twentieth annual Bible Mastery Month campaign will be conducted during October by the Presbytery of Seattle. Though local in origin, the program is worldwide. It was followed last year in 42 States of the Union, five Canadian Provinces and six foreign lands by people belonging to more than twenty denominations—hundreds of thousands of faithful readers.

The Book chosen for this year is the Gospel of John, and the pledge card includes two items: first, that the signer will read from chapters of John daily during October, which is equivalent to the reading of the Book six times during the month; and second, that the signer will try to enlist at least one non-Christian to read.

Those interested are invited to send for further information, including a four-page leaflet describing the campaign in detail, a committal card, a Bible bookmark and a story, "What a Gospel of John Did." Requests with a stamped, addressed return envelope should be sent to Rev. C. J. Boppell, 2606 37th Avenue, S.W., Seattle 6, Washington.

* *

June Meeting of the Board

A meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and thirty-fourth year was held at the Bible House, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, on Thursday, June 2, 1949, at 3:30 p.m., President Daniel Burke, LL.D., in the Chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Viktor Bode of Germany.

The death of Rev. Dr. Robert Scott Inglis was reported and the following Memorial Minute was adopted:

In the death of Dr. Robert Scott Inglis on May 20, 1949, in his eighty-second year, the Society lost its senior ministerial member of the Board of Managers, his membership beginning in November, 1910. While he was deeply interested in all the phases of the work of the Society, he rendered particular service as a member of the Committee on Anniversaries until 1924, when he became a member of the Committee on Foreign Agencies, on which he served until the time of his death.

Born in Canada, he came to the United States as a child and was graduated from Washington and Jefferson College and from Princeton Theological Seminary. Dr. Inglis was a Presbyterian. While he was for a brief time pastor of a church in Jackson, Michigan, he will be especially

remembered for his long and active pastorate in the Third Presbyterian Church of Newark, New Jersey, from 1900 until 1935, when he retired as *pastor emeritus*. Shortly after Pearl Harbor he was assigned as *pastor ad interim* to the Westminster Presbyterian Church at Evansville, Illinois, replacing the pastor, who had entered army service. During his later years he spent the winters in the south and the summers in the Catskills. As he traveled and preached he was ever alert in generating interest in the Society and in the worldwide distribution of the Scriptures. His enthusiasm for the work of the Society is gratefully remembered.

The Board of Managers would record its appreciation of his life and extend to his widow and family its warm sympathy.

The Standing Committees for the years 1949-50 were appointed.

The title of Secretary Nida from "Secretary for Versions" to "Secretary for Translations" was approved.

Publication of the revised text of the Gospels in Bolivian Quechua, and also of an edition of 2,000 copies of the Gospel of Mark in Loma by lithoprint, was approved.

The production of certain Books of the Bible on the new ten-inch Talking Book records for the Blind was authorized.

The resignation of Rev. George F. Sutherland, D.D., was accepted with deep regret.

* *

July Meeting of the Board

A meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and thirty-fourth year was held at the Bible House, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, on Thursday, July 7, 1949, at 3:30 p.m., President Daniel Burke, LL.D., in the Chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Dr. Charles W. Iglehart.

A report on the recent Conference of the United Bible Societies in New York and in Seabury, Conn. was made; and the following resolution, adopted by the Council of the United Bible Societies was read:

That the Council of the United Bible Societies, assembled at Seabury House, gratefully acknowledges the generous hospitality provided by the Board of Directors of the American Bible Society; they wish specially to thank Dr. North for his forethought and care in preparing for the Council meetings, and the other members of the American Bible Society staff for their helpful cooperation and friendship.

The Books of Ephesians, Romans and I and II Thessalonians on the new ten-inch Talking Book records for the Blind were presented.

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Rev. Frank Ray Wilson, Bible House, 450 Park Ave., New York 22, N.Y.

Depositories—To Which Orders for Scriptures Should Be Sent

New York City 22—Bible House, 450 Park Avenue
Atlanta 3, Georgia—85 Walton St.
Chicago 1, Illinois—35 E. Wacker Drive
Dallas 7, Texas—1914 Main St.
San Francisco 2, California—224 McAllister St.
New York, New Jersey, Penna., Del., Maryland, D. C., Virginia, W. Va.
No. Carolina, So. Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tenn., Alabama, Mississippi
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Wash., Ore., Calif., Nevada, Alaska, Hawaii

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Indies—Rev. J. Gonzales Molina, Neptuno
629, Havana, Cuba
Mexico—Sr. H. T. Marroquin, Apartado 1373,
Mexico City
Central America—Rev. Raymond R. Gregory, Bible
House, Box J, Cristóbal, Canal Zone
Venezuela—(Acting) Rev. Raymond R. Gregory,
Bible House, Box J, Cristóbal, Canal Zone
South American—Rev. John H. Twentyman, Apartado
448, Girón Camaná, 836, Lima, Peru

Chile-Bolivia—Rev. D. C. Brackenridge, Casilla 784,
Santiago, Chile
La Plata—Rev. Charles W. Turner, Ph.D., Calle
Paraná 140, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Brazil—Rev. Lewis M. Bratcher, Jr., 133-135 Rua
Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro
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Bible House, Istanbul, Turkey

Bible Lands Agency, South—Rev. Leonard Geary, P. O.
Box 724, 62 Sharia Ibrahim Pasha, Cairo, Egypt
Philippines—Rev. W. H. Fonger, Bible House, 636
Isaac Peral, Manila
Siam—Rev. Peter A. Voth, 150 Sathorn Rd., Bangkok
China—Rev. Ralph Mortensen, Ph.D., Bible House,
58 Hongkong Rd., Shanghai, China
Japan Bible Society—Mr. T. Tanaka, General Secretary,
Bible House, 2 Shichome, Ginza, Tokyo

State Bible Societies Cooperating with the American Bible Society

Maine—Rev. Hammond I. Peterson, 19 Pine St., Portland 4
New Hampshire—Edward A. Dame, 24 Warren St., Concord
Mont.—Rev. Stanley B. Hyde, 189 South Winooski Ave., Burlington
Massachusetts—Rev. Robert W. Coe, D.D., 41 Bromfield St., Boston 8

Connecticut—Rev. John W. Osberg, 278 Farmington Ave., Hartford 5
Rhode Island—Rev. Arthur B. Mercer, 144 Westminster St., Providence 3
Maryland—Rev. E. C. Powers, D.D., 9 E. Franklin St., Baltimore 2

THE OBVIOUS

SOMETIMES obvious truth is the most difficult to state forcefully. Here without elaboration are two facts which became even more obvious in the recent meetings of the UNITED BIBLE SOCIETIES.

- 1 The World wants the Bible!
- 2 The American Bible Society can supply many of the needed Bibles, Testaments and Gospels plus the raw materials for printing in other nations if it has the generous support of Americans.

YOU CAN HELP

- 1 By remembering the work of the Bible Societies in your prayers
- 2 By your own additional contribution
- 3 By passing this *Bible Society Record* on to some person who has not yet helped send Bibles to the world

Additional copies of the *Bible Society Record* will be mailed to you upon request or; if you care to send names in confidence, the Society will mail them

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY
450 Park Avenue New York 22, N.Y.

Please find enclosed my gift of \$..... to supply
Scriptures for the world.

Name.....
(Please print)

Address.....

City.....State..... ☐

Without using my name please send information about
the world hunger for the Word to—

Name.....
(Please print)

Address.....

City.....State.....

Additional names on a separate sheet will be appreciated.

HERKLEY & CALIF